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1560 Shagbark Lane  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062  
October 17, 2001

Ms. Carol Hanlon  
S&ER Products Manager  
U. S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025  
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

The purpose of this letter is to urge the Department of Energy to provide a strong recommendation to President George Bush that the site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada be designated the national repository for high-level radioactive waste and spent fuel.

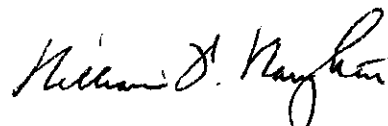
Too many years of effort and billions of taxpayer dollars have been spent on the political issue of siting a national disposal facility. The Department has identified a suitable location that is technically sound and should now move forward expeditiously. Every year of delay consumes valuable time and resources that could be better spent on other infrastructure needs of the U.S. Given the events of September 11, 2001, storing high-level radioactive waste at one location in a deep geologic location is a better option than continuing to accumulate and store spent nuclear fuel at more than 70 sites throughout the nation.

The nuclear industry, and the U.S. Navy, has been handling, storing and transporting spent nuclear fuel for years and the containers used for these purposes have been designed and built to specifications that can withstand extreme conditions. These containers have been put through exhaustive testing and have an outstanding record of safety and performance.

The National Academy of Sciences recently affirmed that the geologic disposal is the only scientifically and technically credible solution to the high-level radioactive waste storage issue. The scientific evidence concludes that Yucca Mountain meets or exceeds the criteria for this type of facility.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to recommend the Yucca Mountain site to the President.

Sincerely,



Dr. William F. Naughton